

THE ST. JOSEPH OBSERVER

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DEMOCRATIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

I hereby announce myself as a candidate for Member of Congress from the Fourth Congressional District of Missouri, subject to the primary election, August 8, 1916.

ROBERT I. YOUNG.

A BEAUTIFUL—A SPLENDID DREAM

"The prospect is one of the blackest humanity has ever faced," said Prof. Edward A. Ross of the University of Wisconsin, in speaking of the future of the world in an address, on New Year's day.

And he is right, for there is no such thing now as international law—or rather, no power or tribunal capable of enforcing it, for "the men of Mars set the pace for the rest of the world," and the peace loving nations are forced to arm themselves in self-defense against the war-like nations and a cool relentless analysis of the situation discloses little ground for hopeful anticipation.

The way of escape—and the only one that Prof. Ross sees—is through an organization of the nations to settle disputes and enforce awards. "Thinking in terms of the nation" is what is destroying Europe. It is high time we were thinking in terms of an international league, or world federation, "capable of keeping the peace without stereotyping the status quo or hindering the survival of the fittest and the success of the adapted."

The same thought recurs in the expressions of other wise men who have been diagnosing the world's desperate malady. Elihu Root says that the hope of the world lies in the real restraint of nations by powerful international tribunals operating under a definite code of laws. The law of nations must be strengthened, not abandoned, and there must be the power of "collective civilization" to enforce punishment on the offending nation.

Darwin P. Kinsley of New York delivered an address in that city the other day on a world federation which deals so exhaustively and concisely with that question that we cannot refrain from quoting these excerpts. He says:

The ordinary causes of war had unquestionably decreased on August 1, 1914, but the hope which that fact held out to many of us proved finally to be a false hope. In the impact of unyielding sovereignties, in the fear which created a race in armaments, in the belief that national preservation was the supreme duty and sovereignty the supreme good, there was abundant fuel for the fires already lighted. The conflagration was certain. Every new invention by which time and space were annihilated, presumably bringing humanity increased comfort and safety and happiness and efficiency, served even more markedly to increase international friction. Sovereignties were jammed together; they met everywhere; they jostled each other on every sea; they crowded each other even in desert places. They had no law by which they could live together. They could have none. Each was itself the law. When, therefore, through the elimination of individual prejudices and provincialisms on the one hand, and the conquest of time and distance on the other, the world had reached a point where human brotherhood was conceivably attainable, humanity found itself in the clutch of this monster called sovereignty. Then came the tragedy! Not alone in squandered life and property, but in missing the great moment prepared through centuries of human fidelity and suffering, the moment when humanity was prepared to see itself through eyes suffused with sympathy and understanding rather than as now through eyes blinded by hate and blood-lust.

The people of the various great powers of the world in 1914 in fundamentals were not dissimilar. Never in the story of man's evolution had been so nearly homogeneous. Everywhere he had approached common standards. His dress was much the same over most of the Christian world, and this uniformity had even made headway against the ancient prejudices of the Orient. He thought much the same everywhere. His standards of justice were strikingly alike. He was kindly and merciful. His vision reached far beyond the borders of his own land, and he was beginning to understand that all men are brave and should be brothers. The various instrumentalities that brought all peoples severally face to face, that promised still further to increase understanding and sympathy and therefore the prospect of peace, unhappily and finally had just the opposite effect. Men grew in international sympathy; sovereignties did not. Men dropped their prejudices; governments did not. The rigid barriers which geographically delimited nations became more rigid and more unyielding as individual knowledge grew and common sympathy spread. The light that penetrated to the individual and banished his bigotry could not penetrate national barriers as such. Its effect indeed was

not to banish the darkness, but to cast deeper shadows. The condition that made men gentle made nations harsh; the impulse that drew the peoples of the world together drove sovereignties apart. The movement which fostered a democratic world, the brotherhood of man, meant the end of the existing international order, and sovereignty instinctively knew and feared that.

The remedy that Mr. Kinsley proposes is the same as is advanced by Professor Ross and Mr. Root. The United States, if it is to fulfill its duty to civilization, should signify its willingness "to meet representatives of all the considerable powers of the world in an international congress, the purpose of which shall be similar to that of the convention which met in Philadelphia in 1787." We should stand prepared, in that convention, to abandon the present doctrine of unconditional sovereignty, just as each colony did in 1789, and to enter, together with the other nations, just as the colonies did then, "upon the only order that leads to peace and true greatness." The whole civilized world today is no more obsessed by jealousy and hatred and conflicting interests than the colonies were. "We shall not, of course, reach the ultimate goal at one bound. A world state modeled after our federal constitution may be a long way off, but a real beginning would be a transcendent achievement." Mr. Kinsley concludes with this eloquent paragraph:

If now we arm—as we should—and do only that we shall show ourselves a nation of ingrates. If we arm and say to Europe that we are ready at any time to disarm, ready with them to create an international state, a state in which the central authority shall act directly on the people as our Federal Government does—a state democratically controlled as our Union is—a state in which international questions are—a state in which war would ultimately become as impossible, as unthinkable as it now is—between Massachusetts and New York—if we do that, aye, if we try to do that—we shall show ourselves morally at least to be worthy descendants of the intrepid men who signed the Declaration of 1776, worthy successors of the great Democrats who fashioned the charter of our liberties in 1778.

It is a beautiful, a splendid dream. And it is out of the fabric of dreams that the stuff of world progress is woven.

OUR INTERESTS AND NATION'S LAWS

No matter what may be the result of the sinking of the Persia—which occurred on the day before New Year—the people of America, thanks to the wise course of President Wilson and his advisers, on the birth of the new year could not fail to welcome it in with glad hearts and with joyful acclaim over the successful outcome of the Ancona negotiations, for once more a proud and imperious power has acknowledged the justice of America's firm and calm stand for neutral rights and the observance of the sacred laws of humanity, when that nation to the last drop of its blood and the last dollar of its resources is fighting for its life.

And we should not fail to note in our deep thankfulness for having escaped the perils that would have attended failure that we should pay tribute of admiration to the Austro-Hungarian government for the fine spirit and moral courage it has shown in closing that ominous dispute. As it makes clear in its reply, the circumstances attending the sinking of the Ancona were such as might easily have been used to excuse, at least before its own people, quite another answer to the United States. And the broad general fact is that Austria and its allies are fighting on the high seas, with the submarine as their only effective weapon, an enemy that itself is lawlessly and ruthlessly overriding the established rules of international war to the great harm of belligerents and neutrals alike. That Austria should now go further than even Germany has gone in agreeing to conform to those rules which it is to its own advantage to disregard, while the enemy goes grimly on violating other rules to Austria's great disadvantage, indeed to its dire distress, should bring now to us a realization of how ardently Austria and its powerful ally desire to retain a relationship of peace and good will with the United States. The suggestion that Austria yields because it cannot afford to take on another enemy is an unhandsome one and beside the question. For Great Britain, even less than Austria, could afford to have the United States for an enemy. The very day that relations between ours and the British government should be broken, and that we should cease to supply the Allies with arms and supplies, would mark the beginning of Ally defeat. Yet Britain shows not the slightest sign of yielding; after many months of continued protests on our part, to the law which she is strong enough to override.

With Germany and with Austro-Hungary, then, our diplomacy has been signally and sweepingly successful. It has exacted from them, at tremendous cost to themselves, promises that lessen enormously the efficiency of the only arm with which they can

fight the "starvation blockade" of which they are the victims. With the British and French governments we have been less fortunate. We are lawlessly prevented from exercising our just right to deal in non-contraband with the enemy belligerents. We are blockaded even against trading with other nations as neutral as ourselves. Our ships are stopped and searched, the mails are taken off them, and passengers and members of the crew are kidnapped. Our vessels, flying the Stars and Stripes, are captured and sent into British prize courts when engaged in no other activity than carrying coal and other commodities between North and South American ports. The Atlantic ocean has been converted into a British lake, and the only rights and privileges we are permitted to enjoy thereon are such as the British government graciously accords us.

With the substance of our just demands upon Germany and Austria acceded to, the time is at hand when, in self-respect as well as to establish fair and honest spirit in dealing as a neutral with belligerents, we should press upon the British and French governments for the recognition of our undisputed rights with the same resolute spirit that has gained us so much when directed against the German and Austrian governments.

WILSON'S BEST ACHIEVEMENT

In the congress of the Latin-American states just concluded at Washington, there was brought forward by the delegates an expression of President Wilson's best achievement. This was when these delegates declared that the mention of the Monroe doctrine no longer excites the fear and resentment of the weaker republics of this hemisphere.

The Monroe doctrine has formerly appeared to be a fearsome thing to almost every other republic in the Americas, because they had been given some reason to suspect that it meant the ultimate dominion of the United States.

We did the ambassador from Chile say that there had been misunderstandings and erroneous interpretations which had in former times clouded the horizon of America, and that there had prevailed before now in the American atmosphere uncertainties, misgivings and suspicions "whenever the well-inspired and unquestionable, beneficial declaration by President Monroe was bandied in the United States with a view to practical application," and that "many of the weaker nations seemed afraid and apprehensive whenever the news reached them of a possible practical application of its declarations."

Up to the time that Woodrow Wilson took command of our government there has been at intervals a desire disclosed to exploit the weaker Americas, the latest being the "taking" of the strip for the Panama canal through the incitation of revolution in Colombia, and the setting up of the government of Panama.

President Wilson has given all Latin-America the guaranty that there will be no more of that. He did it by his policy in Mexico, in which he asked the co-operation of the other American republics. That was the act that proved an earnest of his policy that the Monroe doctrine is a thing that is the common property of all of the Americas, for the protection of all and the enjoyment of all.

What it will mean for closer relationship and friendly co-operation is just beginning to reach the common comprehension of all, and those who grasp its significance well think that they can see in it the greatest of the many great works of the administration.

PUNISH THESE AMERICAN CONSPIRATORS

Shameful as it is to every American to note the indictment of Americans for the same sort of conspiracy for which we have just deported foreign representatives of Germany and Austria, yet it will serve as a means for the federal government to establish a precedent to stop such actions in this country.

We can now resent that species of lawlessness on the part of Americans more than we can the same activity on the part of a foreigner acting through a misguided sense of patriotism. Former Congressmen Buchanan and Fowler of Illinois and former Attorney General Monnett of Ohio owed it to the distinction accorded them by their country to abate nothing in their loyalty to it and their determination to uphold the law.

It surprises no one to learn that the notorious David Lamar, the "wolf of Wall street," was hanging around when a corruption fund was to be dispensed for a lawless purpose, but it is disappointing to learn that he profited to the extent of \$400,000 himself through the mistaken liberality of Rintelen when the latter was disbursing the large sums supplied him from German sources.

It may be that these Americans never intended to foment strikes or blow up munitions factories. It may

be that they started out to do just what they did do, viz., bleed the liberal "friend of the kaiser." That would be hardly less reprehensible than carrying out the Rintelen purposes, and if in doing it they led him to believe that they would aid in accomplishing the ends he sought, and it can be so proven, they must be found guilty of conspiracy if justice is done.

We must not punish the foreigners and let our domestic conspirators escape their deserts.

AN ERA OF BETTER WAGES

With the present Democratic prosperity comes what every laboring man has looked for—an increase in wages—and St. Joseph institutions on Christmas day did their full share.

There is nothing that so aptly illustrates the prevailing satisfaction over financial and industrial conditions in the United States than the wholesale increase in wages made Christmas and New Year's day. Some of the New York banks made presents to their employees of sums equal to a year's wages, and many industrial concerns made substantial bestowals of bonuses to those who had conserved their gratifying prosperity.

About the most significant wage increase recorded is that of the Brooklyn Rapid Transit company, which granted an advance in pay of its employees that will mean a total of a quarter of a million dollars. This increase affects 6,000 or 7,000 men and will make a difference of from 10 to 25 cents a day per man.

This advance was so regulated that it will affect most of the older employees, the purpose being to encourage employees to stick from year to year. It is a means adopted of securing better and more responsible men as a measure of protection to the traveling public.

It may be suggested that these wage increases in the big institutions of the east may mean the inauguration of a higher wage scale everywhere and in all lines. The increase of the country's wealth tends to make prices of life's necessities higher, and if labor is to share in the prosperity there must come an increase in wages somewhere in proportion to the diminished purchasing power of the dollar. And still after all there are Republican calamity howlers right here in St. Joseph who are assiduously yelling hard times.

WE CAN TAKE CARE OF THEM

The banks of the United States are taking care of all of the American securities owned abroad, and incidentally rebuking the foreigners who owned them. When the war broke out Lloyd George said that they amounted to \$5,000,000,000 and called it a debt this country owed England. That statement was immediately challenged. It was in no sense a debt. It was money invested in American industries represented by stocks and bonds and payable during a period covering many years. The amount was also challenged and an investigation was instituted to find out just how many of these securities were owned abroad.

The reports from all railways over 100 miles in length and from 102 industrial plants showed that the amount was something over \$2,000,000,000. The most recent statement is that \$1,500,000,000 of these securities have been brought back from Europe and sold within the last year, \$1,000,000,000 in other funds have been loaned to the warring nations, and still the banks of this country have a plethora of money. Such a condition is of course something to boast of, for instead of this country being swamped with stocks and bonds and the price greatly lowered, both bonds and stocks have been rising and are still on the upward tendency.

The record is a wonderful one. It is a little beyond the comprehension of the ordinary man how the thing was accomplished and he dismisses the subject with the remark: "This is a great country." New York bankers estimate that of the American securities sold by Europe to this country since the outbreak of the war Great Britain has sold \$900,000,000, Germany \$300,000,000, France \$150,000,000, Holland \$100,000,000, Switzerland and other countries \$50,000,000.

Are you writing it 1916?

How did you like Wednesday?

Democrats get ready for the spring mayoralty campaign.

Now that the holiday season is over the festive candidate will come out from hiding.

If you did not have time during the good weather to forgive your enemy, send him around a ton of coal now and all will be well.

It always seems so nice to see a man hanging over the Robidoux bar swilling down highballs, and a few hours later to pick up a paper and read a temperance lecture delivered by this same citizen.

Congress is again in session and before it adjourns there will be some momentous questions settled.

The Democrats will have no trouble at all in picking a candidate for mayor—and in electing him.

Of course the British papers are hot after America to "resent the outrages" perpetrated "on American citizens."

Now that the holidays are over let's all get busy and pull hard for St. Joseph all through 1916.

Don't get excited! There will be no war, neither will there be any truckling as long as Wilson is at the helm.

It must be that Teddy has become so enraged at President Wilson that he has choked—not a word from him for over a half day.

It is proposed to submit some more bond propositions at the next city election. To win, the people must be taken into confidence.

There should be no time wasted by the Democracy of St. Joseph in getting into the spring campaign. Nothing wins like success.

Nothing would suit them better than to involve the United States in the war, for with our help they could see victory—which they do not see without.

Suppose that judges Bub and Kirkman did outvote Presiding Judge Hill—he is too good a Democrat to kick, for he believes in the good old Democratic doctrine of the majority to rule.

It is well that the Democratic national committee has caused the grasping St. Louis hotel keepers to come down off their high perch, for if they had not the national convention would not have been pleasant.

That is a most excellent committee which President Stigall appointed to recruit members of the Monroe club. Every Democrat in St. Joseph should be a member of this sterling Democratic organization.

Councilman Brendel has shied his hat into the ring in the race for the Republican nomination for mayor, and his advent will prove worth several hundred votes for the Democrats. Here's hoping he will stay in.

The best indication that St. Joseph is prosperous is shown in the report of the local office of the State Free Employment bureau, which furnished work last year for 9,734 people and had 1,100 requests for help.

An Oklahoma man is after a garbage franchise in this city. If his contract will include harvesting the crop of garbage which litters St. Joseph street corners in the shape of calamity howlers, we are for closing a deal at once.

Some one who is careful to hide his cognomen under the title of "Democrat," in a lengthy article in the News-Press, proposes to nominate Folk for governor. The votes which Folk would receive in St. Joseph could be counted on the fingers of either hand.

If one were to believe all that he reads in the afternoon paper in reference to gambling, one would infer that Monte Carlo was a Sunday school compared with St. Joseph—but then the people all know that the afternoon paper does not like Dr. Crandall and the police and that it does not care how much it slanders and belittles St. Joseph, so long as it thinks it is limbing Dr. Crandall and the police force—which it is not.

A one-idea Topekan was swaggering around this city this week prating most eloquently of what he accomplished in the war in Europe. We shall be obliged to see the proof of his "heroic actions."

It is extremely gratifying to the people of St. Joseph to note the prosperity enjoyed by the Robidoux hotel as shown by the annual report just made public. It discloses that the Robidoux fills that "long felt want" completely.

The efforts of a few disgruntled to give President Wilson a running mate other than Marshall has fallen flat. The present vice-president is good enough for any one.

The standpatters Penrose, Barnes, Murray and Crane are trying to get the Kansans to send an untrained delegation to the Republican national convention so they can use it to juggle and trade with.

As he has always said, Champ Clark reiterates he will not be a candidate for governor of Missouri, and he will not permit his name to be used. Any Democrat that the party nominates in this state will be elected, no matter what the standpatters and Bullmoosees say.

Mayor Marshall sat down good and hard, as he should, on that silly story started that he proposed to remove the city clerk, Joe Gates. St. Joseph's mayor knows when he has a good official.

If those Kansas natural gas people will just use some of that money to improve the service instead of raising it to pay lawyer fees, the people of St. Joseph would feel much more kindly toward them.

Now that it has been decided to have an audit of the city's books, let the work start, in order that the city's deficit may be made a few thousand greater—in order that some auditors may have a fat and easy job.

It is a healthy sign that the threatened deficit in governmental revenues has been reduced \$12,000,000 even before the Republican claqueurs had got a good start bellowing about it.

Mayor Marshall made a wise and popularly approved selection when he named Carl Weigel as a member of the city council. Mr. Weigel is a progressive and enterprising business man and a good citizen.

Sayings of Missouri Editors

Took the G-D Advice in 1912

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat gives a little free advice to the American people always to choose their own presidents. That advice is a little late, having been taken in 1912, after the bitter and sad experience of letting T. R. pick one for them in 1908.—Nodaway Democrat Forum.

They Were Not Related

While both happened about the same time, we do not believe the Hadley announcement for Senator up in Kansas City, had any connection with the earthquake down at Cape Girardeau in the opposite corner of the state.—Henry County Democrat.

At Least One Great Achievement

The Democratic party for once and for all has settled the vexed currency question to the satisfaction of everybody, and all agree that this country will never have another panic. If the Democratic party had done nothing else but free the currency from the control and contamination of Wall Street it would be entitled to be perpetuated in power indefinitely.—Glasgow Missourian.

LAST DISCOUNT DAY

REMEMBER THAT

Monday January, 10th

IS THE LAST DAY TO

Pay Your Gas Bill and
Save the DISCOUNTPositively No Discount Allowed
After Monday

St. Joseph Gas Co.